

CLAIMS

1. A rotary cultivator (10) characterised in that it comprise an
5 elongate tubular handle member (12), a cultivator tool (14) rotatably
mounted at one end of the handle member (12) and an electric motor
drive unit (16) mounted at the other end of the handle member (12), the
handle member (12) being curved adjacent the end to which the
cultivator tool (14) is mounted, a flexible drive element (22) extending
10 within the tubular handle member (12), the flexible drive element (22)
being connected directly at one end to the electric motor drive unit (16)
and at the other end to the cultivator tool (14).
- 2 A rotary cultivator (10) according to claim 1 characterised in that
15 the electric motor drive unit (16) is provided in the form of a dedicated
drive unit secured to the upper end of the handle member (12).
3. A rotary cultivator (10) according to claim 1 characterised in that
the electric motor drive unit (16) is provided in the form of a portable drill
20 (66) or like appliance.
4. A rotary cultivator (10) according to claim 3 characterised in that
attachment means (70) is provided at the upper end of the handle
member (12) for securing a drill (66) or like appliance to the handle
25 member (12).
- 5 A rotary cultivator (10) according to claim 4 characterised in that
means (78,80) is provided for clamping the drill (66) or like appliance to
the attachment means (70).

6 A rotary cultivator (10) according to any one of claims 1 to 5
characterised in that the drill (60) or like appliance is connected to the
flexible drive (22) by means of a drive member (60), the drive member
5 having a socket formation (64) for engagement of a drive formation (26)
on the flexible drive (22).

7. A rotary cultivator (10) according to any one of the preceding
claims characterised in that the electric motor drive unit (16) is powered
10 by means of batteries (96).

8. A rotary cultivator (10) according to any one of claims 1 to 6
characterised in that the electric motor drive unit (16) is powered from a
mains supply.

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9. A rotary cultivator (10) according to any one of the preceding
claims characterised in that the electric motor drive unit (16) is connected
to the flexible drive (22) by means of a torque limiting clutch.

20 10. A rotary cultivator (10) according to any one of the preceding
claims characterised in that the cultivator tool (14) comprises a flange
formation (50) with a plurality of tine formations (56) extending in the
direction of the axis of rotation of the flange formation (50).

25 11. A rotary cultivator (10) according to claim 10 characterised in that
cylindrical tine formations (56) extend axially from the outer periphery of
the flange formation (50), at angularly spaced locations.

12. A rotary cultivator (10) according to claim 10 characterised in that the tine formations (56) are angled inwardly away from the flange formation (50).

5 13. A rotary cultivator (10) according to any one of the preceding claims characterised in that the cultivator tool (14) is connected to the flexible drive (22) by means of an arbor (34), the arbor (34) having a socket formation (40) for engagement of a drive formation (24) on the flexible drive (22) and being rotatably mounted in a bush unit (30)
10 secured to the lower end of the handle member (12).

14. A rotary cultivator (12) according to any one of the preceding claims characterised in that the handle member (12) is formed from a plurality of sections (18), the sections (18) being releasably
15 interconnected by means of sleeve members (20) which engage the ends of adjacent sections (18).

15. A rotary cultivator according to claim 14 characterised in that the sleeve members (20) act as guides and bearings for the flexible drive
20 element (22).